

GSO DECEMBER REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

MINUTES – 2 DEC. 2006

- I. **Call to Order:** Jason Lewis
- II. **Roll:** Stephen Graves,
 - A. *Executive Board:* Pat Wilcox, Jason Lewis, Jane Siow, Stephen Graves
 - B. *In Attendance:* Jacqui Mogle, Psychology; Dan Miller, Religion; Lindsay Damon, Social Work; Andrew Campbell, Biology; Michael Gale, Public Admin.; Catherine Burke-Plumadore, History; Sarah Howell, Computer Art/Transmedia; Marju Purin, Mathematics; Christy Graves, Mathematics; Rebecca Wienbar, Geography; Rachel Collins, English; Eric Wortman, Mathematics; Deke Gould, Philosophy; John MEyers, ISTGO; Sotirios Gountas, IRSA; Jessica Swan, PA; Stephen Shafer, PA/MaxPac; Caroline Kouassiaman, IR/PA-Maxwell Women’s Caucus; Brigitte Fielder-Montero, English; Elizabeth Mercer, PA; Rachel Horlings, Anthropology; Lori Klivak, Anthropology; Danny Pettit, Anthropology; Dylan Moore, Transmedia.
- III. **November Minutes:** Approved
- IV. **Executive Reports:** Pat Wilcox
 - A. *Housing Survey:* After meeting With Trudy Morritz in the Chancellor’s Office, Pat Wilcox and Steve Graves made some positive changes to the survey. The desire of the chancellor’s office is to see some of the data-gathering questions turned into instrumental questions which can be used to answer the buying questions of the Board of Trustees; such questions include the preferred location of the facility, the type of security it might have, and the like. There are hints that the Board would like to build along the Connective Corridor, if they do in fact build. In terms of incentive for the survey, the cost of an iPod (Red) is roughly \$250, with only \$10 going to AIDS relief. Rather than this small percentage, we might spend \$350 to buy the top of the line video iPod, and then perhaps make a direct donation to the (Red) campaign. The project entailed in the Housing Survey is the single largest project ever undertaken by the GSO; the price point for a housing complex of any type for graduate students is in the several millions of dollars.
 - B. *Changes to the Graduate Rules and Regulations:* Pat and Jason are on the Grad Council, and two action items are up for changes: Rules 46.6 and 46.7 defining (1) when ABD occurs and if there should be a flat rule across the colleges and departments, and (2) whether the Master of Philosophy should be granted – there is “Bundy[?] Money” for every student who gets their MPhil. Rule 46.7 addresses “currency of knowledge” and whether to have a black-letter rule about how long you have from the time that the dissertation clock starts ticking. The role of the “currency of knowledge” is that in certain fields, if more than 5 years are spent after ABD is reached, the State of the Art has moved beyond the student’s knowledge. Currently, the standing rule is a 5 year clock from ABD, and Pat and Jason are working to get the same clock-stoppages for the dissertation clock as those stoppages for the tenure clock.

C. *Career Services:* Rosanne Ecker makes a presentation about Career Services and what role she would like to play for graduate students. She has a survey as to the needs of graduate students for career counseling and has generously provided such to the GSO Senate for critical feedback. Several comments were made on the survey: that it should be publicized through some sort of listserv, and that more open-ended questions be added.

V. **Special and Ad Hoc Committee Reports:**

A. *emphTransportation, Steve Shafer:* There are essentially three requests in play currently: a request by faculty for transportation to and from work sites for students, a request by undergraduates for bus service to the bars, and the perennial request of graduate students for better bus service in the East Neighborhood, immediately adjacent to campus. To solve the problem of the East Neighborhood, some bus routes may need to be changed. Also, the Shuttle-U-Home program is still being evaluated as to what improvements are needed.

VI. **Standing Committee Reports:** Jane Siow

A. *Finance Committee:*

1. Committee on Women and Art: Request for \$2488.33 for 16th Annual Matrilineage Symposium, 14–24 February. The request is to fund food and publicity, and as the event spans 10 days, the Senate votes unanimously to fund the event in the full requested amount. (Total cost of event, \$12,700, approximately.)
2. Maxwell Women’s Caucus: Request for \$220 for a seminar on Stereotypes Surrounding Women in Religion, 6 February. The request is to fund refreshments at a speaker-event on the topic. Expected attendance is about 30, and most if not all will be graduate students. Senate votes unanimously to fund in the full requested amount.
3. Korean Percussion Drumming Group: This group has requested funding in the amount of \$4358 for (apparently) a concert in the spring. Due to procedural issues, they were denied funding by the SA. The recommendation of the Finance Committee is to seek funding elsewhere and then, if necessary, reapply to the GSO for Special Programming Funds. Senate votes unanimously to deny funding to the organization at this time.

VII. **Old Business:** Proposals for presentation to the Trustees must be in by Saturday for presentation the following Friday. The request for bike-rack stuff got positive feedback from the chancellor. Dylan is looking into manual pumps and an Industrial Design program enclosure. In other news, Petit library is hoping to expand, and is seeking input as per use/design/utility, anyone interested should contact Jane Siow.

VIII. **New Business:** Any recognized student orgs which have websites should send them to us so we can link to them on the website: gso@syr.edu

IX. **Remarks for the Record:** None

X. **Announcements:** Student Affairs quality council changed the nature of its work to look at staff issues, the good news is they are making a focus group to look at grad student issues in the dept of student affairs.

XI. **EXECUTIVE SESSIONS — CLOSED TO ALL NON-VOTING SENATORS**

XII. **Adjournment:** Please join us for lunch at Faegan’s.

Late Arrivals: Rachel Horlings, Dylan Moore, 2 unknowns, Brunette whose name I don't remember,